

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
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R 211109Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1504
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 2847

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, ECIN, EFIN
SUBJECT: ECOWAS DEVELOPMENTS

1. I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER KODJO TODAY AND IN THE
COURSE OF CONVERSAION HE CONFIRMED THAT ALEXANDER R. HORTON
OF LIBERIA IS TO BE THE DIRECTOR OF THE ECOWAS
FUND TO BE LOCATED IN LOME AND THAT BOUBACAR OUATTARA
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IS TO BE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECOWAS SECRETARIAT
TO BE LOCATED IN LAGOS. KODJO SAID THAT A TOGOLESE-
NIGERIAN DELEGATION LEFT LOME ON DECEMBER 19 TO
VISIT IVORY COAST AND TO CONFER WITH PRESIDENT
HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ABOUT THESE NOMINATIONS. THE
DELEGATION IS COMPOSED OF TOGOLESE MINISTER OF PLAN

DOGO AND NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AKOBO.

2. KODJO SAID THAT THE NIGERIANS AND TOGOLESE ARE COOPERATING VERY CLOSELY IN COORDINATING ECOWAS DEVELOPMENTS AND MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM OF THE ORGANIZATION. HE SAID THE HOPE WAS TO GET THE SECRETARIAT IN PLACE AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO BEGIN THE DIFFICULT EFFORT OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS OF ACHIEVING EXCHANGE LIBERALIZATION AND CONVERTIBILITY OF CURRENCIES. FOLLOWING THAT THREE-YEAR PERIOD, KODJO SAID THE ECOWAS PARTNERS ENVISAGE A PERIOD OF TWELVE YEARS DURING WHICH THE CUSTOMS UNION WILL COME INTO EFFECT. AFTER THE FIFTEEN-YEAR PERIOD THE PLANNERS ENVISAGE A COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF.

3. KODJO SAID THAT MUCH OF THE THINKING ON ECOWAS IS TAKING PLACE IN LOME BECAUSE NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR ADEUGA ADEKUOYE HAD BEEN THE PRINCIPAL NIGERIAN EXPERT SINCE THE CONCEPTION OF ECOWAS AND KODJO HIMSELF HAD PLAYED A SIMILAR ROLE ON THE TOGOLESE SIDE.
PALMER

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